

**U.S. District Court
District of Columbia (Washington, DC)
CIVIL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:17-cv-01078-CRC**

JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. v. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Assigned to: Judge Christopher R. Cooper

Cause: 05:552 Freedom of Information Act

Date Filed: 06/06/2017

Jury Demand: None

Nature of Suit: 895 Freedom of
Information Act

Jurisdiction: U.S. Government Defendant

Plaintiff

JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.

represented by **Paul J. Orfanedes**
JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.
425 Third Street, SW
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20024
(202) 646-5172
Fax: (202) 646-5199
Email: porfanedes@judicialwatch.org
ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

V.

Defendant

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS'
AFFAIRS**

represented by **Johnny Hillary Walker , III**
U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
Civil Division
555 Fourth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20530
(202) 252-2575
Fax: (202) 252-2599
Email: johnny.walker@usdoj.gov
LEAD ATTORNEY
ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Doris Denise Coles-Huff
U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
555 Fourth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20530
(202) 252-2557
Fax: (202) 252-2599
Email: doris.coles@usdoj.gov
ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED

Date Filed	#	Docket Text
06/06/2017	<u>1</u>	COMPLAINT against U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS (Filing fee \$ 400 receipt number 0090-4979029) filed by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC.. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Civil Cover Sheet, # <u>2</u> Summons U.S. Attorney, # <u>3</u> Summons U.S. Attorney General, # <u>4</u> Summons U.S. Department of Veterans' Affairs)(Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 06/06/2017)
06/06/2017	<u>2</u>	LCvR 7.1 CERTIFICATE OF DISCLOSURE of Corporate Affiliations and Financial Interests by JUDICIAL WATCH, INC. (Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 06/06/2017)
06/07/2017		Case Assigned to Judge Christopher R. Cooper. (sb) (Entered: 06/07/2017)
06/07/2017	<u>3</u>	SUMMONS (3) Issued Electronically as to U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS, U.S. Attorney and U.S. Attorney General (Attachment: # <u>1</u> Consent Form)(sb) (Entered: 06/07/2017)

06/16/2017	<u>4</u>	NOTICE of Appearance by Johnny Hillary Walker, III on behalf of U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 06/16/2017)
06/19/2017	<u>5</u>	RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed as to the United States Attorney. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney on 6/12/2017. (Answer due for ALL FEDERAL DEFENDANTS by 7/12/2017.), RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed on United States Attorney General. Date of Service Upon United States Attorney General 6/12/2017., RETURN OF SERVICE/AFFIDAVIT of Summons and Complaint Executed. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS served on 6/14/2017 (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Declaration of Cristina Rotaru)(Orfanedes, Paul) (Entered: 06/19/2017)
07/06/2017	<u>6</u>	ANSWER to Complaint by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS.(Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 07/06/2017)
07/06/2017		MINUTE ORDER: Before the Court in this FOIA case are <u>1</u> a complaint and <u>6</u> an answer. It is hereby ORDERED that the parties shall promptly confer and file a joint proposed schedule for briefing or disclosure by July 21, 2017. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 7/6/2017. (lccrc2) (Entered: 07/06/2017)
07/07/2017		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Proposed Briefing Schedule due by 7/21/2017 (lsj) (Entered: 07/07/2017)
07/21/2017	<u>7</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS. (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 07/21/2017)
07/25/2017		MINUTE ORDER: In light of <u>7</u> parties' Joint Status Report, it is hereby ORDERED that Defendant shall continue searching for, reviewing, and releasing responsive records to Plaintiff on a rolling basis. It is further ORDERED that the parties shall file a joint status report on or by September 19, 2017 informing the Court of the status of Defendant's response. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 7/25/2017. (lccrc2) (Entered: 07/25/2017)
07/25/2017		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 9/19/2017 (hs) (Entered: 07/25/2017)
09/19/2017	<u>8</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS. (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 09/19/2017)
09/21/2017		MINUTE ORDER: In light of <u>8</u> the parties' Joint Status Report it is ORDERED that the Defendant shall continue making rolling productions to Plaintiff and that the parties shall file a further Joint Status Report on December 18, 2017 updating the Court on the status of production and, if necessary, proposing a briefing schedule. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 9/21/2017. (lccrc2) (Entered: 09/21/2017)
09/21/2017		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 12/18/2017 (lsj) (Entered: 09/21/2017)
12/18/2017	<u>9</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS. (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 12/18/2017)
12/22/2017		MINUTE ORDER: In light of <u>9</u> the parties' joint status report, the parties are hereby directed to file another joint status report by February 7, 2018. The status report shall propose a definitive date for completing production and, if necessary, a briefing schedule for summary judgment. Defendant is also directed to continue making rolling production to Plaintiff on a monthly basis, with productions due January 8, 2018 and February 7, 2018. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 12/22/2017. (lccrc2) (Entered: 12/22/2017)
12/27/2017		Set/Reset Deadlines: Status Report due by 2/7/2018 (lsj) (Entered: 12/27/2017)
12/27/2017		Set/Reset Deadlines: Meet & Confer Statement due by 1/8/2018. (lsj) (Entered: 12/27/2017)
02/07/2018	<u>10</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 02/07/2018)
02/13/2018		MINUTE ORDER: In light of <u>10</u> the parties' joint status report, it is hereby ORDERED that defendant shall complete its releases to plaintiff by June 30, 2018. The parties shall file a joint status report by April 20, 2018 updating the Court on the status of production. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 2/13/2018. (lccrc2)

		(Entered: 02/13/2018)
02/13/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 4/20/2018 (lsj) (Entered: 02/13/2018)
04/20/2018	<u>11</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 04/20/2018)
04/24/2018		MINUTE ORDER: In light of <u>11</u> the parties' joint status report, it is hereby ORDERED that Defendant shall complete its releases to Plaintiff by July 30, 2018. The parties are directed to file a further joint status report by August 29, 2018 informing the Court whether any disputes remain and, if necessary, proposing a briefing schedule. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 4/24/2018. (lccrc2) Modified on 4/24/2018 (zlsj). (Entered: 04/24/2018)
04/24/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 8/29/2018 (lsj) (Entered: 04/24/2018)
07/27/2018	<u>12</u>	MOTION to Modify <i>the Scheduling Order</i> by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 07/27/2018)
07/30/2018		VACATED PURSUANT TO MINUTE ORDER ENTERED 12/3/18.....MINUTE ORDER granting <u>12</u> Defendant's Motion to Modify Production Schedule and vacating scheduling order entered on April 24, 2018. Defendant shall now complete its releases by November 30, 2018. The parties shall now file a joint status report by December 28, 2018 informing the Court whether any disputes remain and, if necessary, proposing a briefing schedule. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 7/30/2018. (lccrc2) Modified on 12/4/2018 (zlsj). (Entered: 07/30/2018)
07/30/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 12/28/2018. (znbn) (Entered: 07/30/2018)
11/30/2018	<u>13</u>	Consent MOTION to Modify <i>the Scheduling Order</i> by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 11/30/2018)
12/03/2018		MINUTE ORDER granting Defendant's <u>13</u> Consent Motion to Modify the Scheduling Order. The scheduling order entered on July 30, 2018, is hereby vacated. The parties shall file an updated joint status report on or before December 14, 2018, which must contain a proposed schedule for Defendant's releases. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 12/3/2018. (lccrc2) (Entered: 12/03/2018)
12/04/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 12/14/2018 (lsj) (Entered: 12/04/2018)
12/14/2018	<u>14</u>	Joint STATUS REPORT by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS. (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 12/14/2018)
12/17/2018		MINUTE ORDER: The Court has reviewed the proposed order contained in the parties' <u>14</u> joint status report. Defendant shall complete its releases by September 30, 2019, and the parties shall file a joint status report by October 30, 2019, informing the Court whether any disputes remain and, if necessary, proposing a briefing schedule for resolving those issues. In the interim, the parties shall file a joint status report every 90 days, updating the Court on the status of production, beginning January 28, 2019. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 12/17/2018. (lccrc2) (Entered: 12/17/2018)
12/17/2018		Set/Reset Deadlines: Joint Status Report due by 1/28/2019. Further Joint Status Report due by 10/30/2019. (lsj) (Entered: 12/17/2018)
01/25/2019	<u>15</u>	Unopposed MOTION to Stay <i>and for extension of time</i> by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS (Attachments: # <u>1</u> Text of Proposed Order)(Coles-Huff, Doris). Added MOTION for Extension of Time to on 1/28/2019 (jf). (Entered: 01/25/2019)
01/25/2019		MINUTE ORDER granting <u>15</u> Defendant's Motion to Stay. All deadlines in the case shall be stayed pending renewed funding. Signed by Judge Christopher R. Cooper on 1/25/2019. (lccrc2) (Entered: 01/25/2019)
01/29/2019	<u>16</u>	NOTICE of Restored Funding and Proposed Schedule by U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS re Order on Motion to Stay (Walker, Johnny) (Entered: 01/29/2019)